

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5      1.    A method for obtaining information useful for management of a composite e-service, comprising the steps of:

generating a set of management information for each of a set of service interactions among a set of  
10    e-services in the composite e-service, the e-services arranged in a tree structure including one of the e-services that provides a portal to the composite e-service;

transferring the sets of management information  
15    up the tree structure to the e-service that provides the portal and combining the management information at each of a set of levels of the tree structure.

2.    The method of claim 1, wherein the each service  
20    interaction comprises a request from one of the e-services and a response from a sub-service in the tree that handles the request.

3.    The method of claim 1, wherein the each set of  
25    management information is contained in a management object.

4.    The method of claim 3, wherein the management  
object has the form of an XML document.

- 30    5.    The method of claim 1, wherein the step of combining the management information comprises the step of combining the management information using an

indicator carried in each set of management information that identifies a service interaction between a client and the portal.

5       6.    The method of claim 1, wherein the management information includes a time taken by the corresponding e-service to complete a corresponding request.

10       7.    The method of claim 1, wherein the management information includes an indication of errors that occurred in the corresponding e-service while servicing a corresponding request.

15       8.    The method of claim 1, wherein the management information includes a set of costs incurred in the corresponding e-service while servicing a corresponding request.

20       9.    The method of claim 1, wherein the management information includes an indication of security violations that occurred in the corresponding e-service while servicing a corresponding request.

25       10.   The method of claim 1, wherein the management information includes an indication of resource usage in the corresponding e-service while servicing a corresponding request.

30       11.   A composite e-service comprising a set of e-services arranged in a tree structure including one of the e-services that provides a portal to the

composite e-service, each e-service having a manager such that the managers collectively generate a set of management information for each of a set of service interactions among the e-services and transfer the sets of management information up the tree structure to the e-service that provides the portal while combining the management information at each of a set of levels of the tree structure.

10 12. The composite e-service of claim 11, wherein each e-service includes an application that processes the corresponding service interaction while the corresponding manager gathers the corresponding management information.

15 13. The composite e-service of claim 11, wherein the managers assemble the management information into a set of management objects.

20 14. The composite e-service of claim 13, wherein each management object has the form of an XML document.

25 15. The composite e-service of claim 11, wherein the managers combine the management information using an indicator carried in each set of management information that identifies a service interaction between a client and the portal.

30 16. The composite e-service of claim 11, wherein the management information includes a time taken by the corresponding e-service to complete a corresponding request.

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